

OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

OLYMPIC COAST DISCOVERY CENTER



VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2009



Photo Credit Jeanne Pumphrey

What's Up?

Many of you have called or emailed recently to ask what's happening in the OCDC. The answer for now is nothing. We remain closed until the new wall is built and the coral display is installed. We hoped that this would be completed by March 1, but now the installation is scheduled for mid-April. I promise to publish a special edition the moment I hear anything more.

Meanwhile, there are events coming up that you might want to consider:

Most importantly, volunteer training begins **Tuesday, March 24**. You are invited to join us for any of the sessions that sound interesting. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to join our group, please invite them to the training or have them contact me for more information.

March 24 – Overview, Ocean Literacy, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary

March 26 – Talking with Guests (Greg Marsh of ONP), Research and Cold-water Corals (Ed and Mary Sue)

March 31 – Current Issues (Carol), Marine Mammals, Maritime Heritage

April 2 – Field trip to Makah Cultural Center and Cape Flattery

April 7 – Climate Change and Ocean Acidification (John Barimo), Biodiversity, Marine Debris

April 9 – Nuts and Bolts of Volunteering, Intro to the New Exhibit (maybe)

The Washington Coast Cleanup is Saturday, April 18

We need volunteers at several sites along the coast, especially Kalaloch and Neah Bay. Kalaloch Campground offers free camping for the weekend, and there is also a free lunch on Saturday. But most important, you are making a difference in the health of our ocean! You can get more information at www.coastsavers.org or by calling our office.

Saturday, April 25 there is an Earth Day celebration on City Pier

OCDC staff and volunteers will share information on marine debris, but with one big difference from last year – this is a “no waste” event, so we cannot have handouts. Instead we are developing hands-on activities for families to enjoy.

Looking ahead to late spring and summer, we are anticipating participation in more community events than in previous years, and more students coming for field trips. I will publish more information as it's available.

If you would like to participate in any of these events, please email me at janet.lamont@noaa.gov or call the office at 457-6622 ext 31.

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Feiro Marine Life Center Lecture Series: Elwha River Dam Removal - Restoration and Salmon Recovery

*Saturday, March 28, 6:30-8:30pm
Feiro Marine Life Center,
City Pier, Port Angeles*

Pat Crain, Fisheries Branch Co-Chief for Olympic National Park, will provide a general description of dam removal and the factors which shape the recovery strategy. He will provide detail on the actual restoration approach, with an emphasis on the ESA listed species in the watershed (Chinook, Steelhead, and bull trout). Since 1989, Pat has been directly involved in planning and implementing the Fisheries Restoration Plan for the Elwha Project. He is a co-author of a recently published NOAA Technical Memo, which lays out the general design for restoring fish to the Elwha River following dam removal. Please call to reserve a space at 417-6254.

Catalog Reduction Campaign



Do you sometimes receive catalogs from companies that you have never heard of, or catalogs that are addressed to previous residents who are long gone? Even if catalogs that arrive in the mail contain items of interest, chances are you would probably find them on the web. Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary has launched a Catalog Reduction Campaign. In two days they canceled 25 catalogs in less than thirty minutes time. The total weight of these catalogs exceeded 20 pounds!

It is a very simple process to cancel these catalog mailings, and they suggest other people give it a try. It may take a couple of months for the volume of catalogs to start tapering off, as they are preprinted 2-3 months in advance. Here is how to do it:

Call the number on the back of each catalog. Have ready the Customer/Priority/Account number that is posted in a colored box on the back of the catalog. Many catalogs have instructions on the back cover describing how to unsubscribe.

Ask how you can be removed from the mailing list. Sometimes you can have this done by the receptionist or you may have to listen to the options on the menu. Most of the time a customer service representative can handle this quickly. Other times you may have to leave a voice message.

Keep in mind that if there are multiple catalogs sent to different people, each individual account will need to be cancelled.

Keep a record of all catalog cancellations including the Name, Customer, Priority, Account number, date of cancellation, etc. This way when catalogs arrive you can distinguish the ones that have already been cancelled. Keep in mind that cancelled catalogs should stop arriving after 2-3 months.

Once the process has been initiated it should take very little time to cancel subscriptions as they trickle in. Every one of these catalogs has a website, lets use them!